About two weeks after eviction, anti-death penalty rally held at San Quentin. Hongisto among speakers. Tenants showed up to pciket with blown up photos of Hongisto and sledgehammer, handed out this statement. Hongisto was a no-show.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL TENANTS ASSOCIATION

The tenants and supporters of the International Hotel wish to express our full support of the struggle against capital punishment. We feel, however, that the appearance of Sheriff Richard Hongisto as a spokesperson in today's demonstration is an affront to this or any other struggle for human rights.

Hongisto's eviction of the tenants of the International Hotel exposed the hypocrisy of a man seemingly concerned with humanitarian principles.

Hongisto said he didn't want to evict the tenants; yet, when confronted with a moral choice, he bowed to the pressures of those who value property over people and oversaw the brutal removal of 55 elderly tenants after he personally sledge-hammered down their doors.

Hongisto decries capital punishment. But would he not again fear "jeopardizing (his) entire professional career" if ordered to serve as executioner?

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